

Message Text

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 03774 250910Z

43

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SAM-01 EB-07 OMB-01

VO-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 A-01 OPR-02 (ISO) W

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R 250736Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

INFO SECSTATE WASHC 5802

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 3774

EO 11652 NA

TAGS MARR CGEN PFOR TW RP US

SUBJECT: VISAS FOR TRAVEL TO THE PHILIPPINES

REF TAIPEI 3658

1. SUMMARY: APPROXIMATELY 15 USG EMPLOYEES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS TRAVEL TO CLARK AIR BASE IN THE PHILIPPINES EACH WEEK ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEDICAL EVACUATION FLIGHTS FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT WHICH IS NOT AVAILABLE IN TAIPEI. IN THE PAST, ALL PATIENTS, EXCEPT CIRICAL EMERGENCY CASES, WERE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN PHILIPPINE VISAS IN ADVANCE. GOP HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER VISAS WILL BE ISSUED HERE BY THE NEW FAR EAST TRADE PROMOTION CENTER NOW BEING SET UP IN TAIPEI. SINCE THE CHANGEOVER WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS AND WILL IMMEDIATELY AFFECT THE ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO US MILITARY PERSONNEL NEEDING TREATMENT AT CLARK WE WOULD APPRECIATE MANILA'S REACTIONS OR RECOMMEN-DATIONS CONCERNING POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES.END SUMMARY.

2. THE US NAVY HOSPITAL IN TAIPEI HAS CALLED THE EMBASSY'S ATRENTION TO A PROBLEM WHICH MAY ARISE FROM THE NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GROC AND THE GOP. BECAUSE OF MEDICAL STAFF REDUCTIONS AT THE HOSPITAL THE NUMBER OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TAIPEI 03774 250910Z

PATIENTS REFERRED TO CLARK AIR BASE HOSPITAL FOR SPECIALIZED TREATMENT AND TRAVEL ON SCHEDULED USAF FLIGHTS TO CLARK IS INCREASING. THE NAVY HOSPITAL EXPECTS APPROXIMATELY 15 SUCH CASES PER WEEK OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. IN THE

PAST ALL PATIENTS EXCEPT CRITICAL EMERGENCY CASES,
WERE REQUIRED UNDER GOP IMMIGRATION REGULATIONS TO OBTAIN A
PHILIPPINE VISA BECAUSE THEY WERE ENTERING THROUGH US
MILITARY BASES AND EXPECTED TO STAY MORE THAN 72 HOURS.

3. THE PHILIPPINE CONSUL (PERALTA) IN TAIPEI HAS INFORMED
AN EMBOFF THAT MANILA HAS NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER VISAS
WILL BE ISSUED HERE UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT FOR SUB-
DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS (REFTEL). IN THE EVENT THE GOP
DECIDES, AS DO MOST OTHER COUNTIRES WITH UNOFFICIAL
REPRESENTATION IN TAIPEI, TO ACCEPT VISA APPLICATIONS IN
TAIPEI AND ISSUE VISAS ELSEWHERE, THE MOVEMENT OF ROUTINE
MEDICAL
CASES TO CLARK WILL BE IMMEDIATELY AFFECTED.

4. IN THE EVENT VISAS WILL NOT BE ISSUED IN TAIPEI, TWO
POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVES OCCUR TO US AND WE WOULD APPRECIATE
MANILA'S COMMENTS THEREON: (1) GOP IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES
PERMIT TWENTY-ONE DAY VISA FREE ENTRY FOR MEDICAL CASES
REFERRED FROM TAIPEI; (2) GOP IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES
ACCEPT APPLICATION FOR PRE-CLEARANCE IN LIEU OF
VISA THROUGH US NAVY USAF
CHANNELS FOR MEDICAL EVACUATIONS TO CLARK. FYI: AN
ADDITIONAL COMPLICATION IN ANY ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENT IS
THAT A NUMBER OF USG DEPENDENTS IN TAIWAN ARE NOT US
CITIZENS(MOST ARE CHINESE CITIZENS).

5. WE WILL FURNISH ADDITONAL INFORMATION AS IT BECOMES
AVAILABLE AND IN THE MEANTIME WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY
MANILA'S COMMENTS ON THE ALTERNATIVES IN PARA FOUR.
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